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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY

Bulgaria

SUBJECT

Data on Rakovitsa, Kula Okoliya

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1. The First Militia Post (Poduchastuk) is quartered in the Obshtina Administration buildings in the village of Rakovitsa, Kula Okoliya. The post consists of four uniformed militiamen and one senior militiaman in charge of the section.

## 2. Personalities:

- a) Tsvetan Iliev, [redacted] senior / militiaman / of the post [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- b) Gruyu (fnu), militiaman, [redacted]
- c) Tsanyu Zdravkov, [redacted] chief of the militia in Kula, [redacted]
- d) Pavel (fnu), chief of State Security in Kula, captain [redacted]
- e) Mityu Nikolov Mitov, State Security agent in Kula, [redacted]
- f) Nikola Mladenov, agent of the State Security in Kula [redacted]

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3. The People's Soviet is located in the center of Rakovitsa near the militia headquarters.

## 4. Personalities:

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- a) Petur Vulchev [redacted] chairman of the people's soviet, [redacted]
- b) Dano Iliev, [redacted] secretary of the people's soviet. [redacted]
- c) Yolo Tsanov, [redacted] member of the BZNS, (Bulgarian People's Agricultural Union) [redacted]
- d) Ignat Savov, [redacted] farmer [redacted]
- e) Nadka Ivanova [redacted]
- f) Petra Tosheva [redacted]

5. The [State] delivery quotas in the obshtina (community) are collected by a commission consisting of the chairman of the people's soviet, the Party secretary, and two commissars. The grain to be delivered to the state is taken directly from the thresher. The price paid for [one kg of] wheat is up to 0.80 stotinki [probably 80 stotinki, since there are 100 stotinki in one lev]. Since the wheat cannot be bought on the free market, it must be bought from State stores at a price of four to six leva per kg. The eggs are collected by special egg collectors, who are paid by the obshtina. Every farmer must give five eggs per hen to the state each week. Thus, the hen can rest one day a week and still supply the farmer with one egg per week for his own use. The farmers try to evade the compulsory deliveries by hiding food, milk, eggs, sunflowers, and grapes. If the farmers are caught and found guilty, they are punished by imprisonment, detention in a camp, and fines. The fines are collected by tax collectors. If the fine is not paid, the property and cattle are confiscated. The fields are then sold to the state, which transfers them to the TKZS to be tilled by cooperative farmers.
6. Prior to 1944, the Communist Party [in Rakovitsa] consisted of only six members, who were not active in party affairs. Three of these Communists were imprisoned. When the Communist Party seized power, it compelled over 200 BZNS members to register [with the Communist Party]. These people were forbidden to register in their own political organization. Today the Party membership has decreased to about 56 members, who are not considered reliable by the Party.

## 7. Personalities:

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- a) Tseko Stoyanov, alias Zhelezovski, secretary of the party [redacted]
- b) Toshko Mitranka [redacted]
- c) Pancho Ignatov, [redacted]

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- d) Angel Gogov, [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- e) Petur Ninov [redacted]
- f) Georgi Ivanov Antov [redacted]
- g) Vulcho Georgiev [redacted]
- h) Petur Tselov [redacted]
- i) Vulcho Gogov, [redacted]
- j) Tseko Ivanov Barenshkov [redacted]

8. In 1946, the TKZS (Trudovo Kooperativno Zemedelsko Stopanstvo — Cooperative Labor Farm) consisted of Communist members. Later, the Kula militia and the Party forced the farmers to join the TKZS. The TKZS includes 1,800 decarees of obshtina land and 850 decarees of land taken from private farmers. In 1950, Dano Yolov, a BZNS member withdrew from the TKZS, however, when his land and property were not returned to him, he was forced to rejoin the TKZS. Many farmers accused of sabotage and of being Kulaks were expelled from the TKZS and sent to forced labor camps, however, their lands, property, and cattle remained with the TKZS.

9. In the fall of 1950, the Party persuaded new members to join the TKZS. The initial 60 TKZS members, chiefly Communists, did not do much work, but conducted propaganda activity. With beatings, arrests, blockades of the village, and fines, the membership rose to about 200.

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10. [redacted]

11. The TKZS uses agricultural machinery, tractors, threshers, and seeders which have been nationalized. The MTS in Aleksandrovo, Belogradchik Okoliya, provided a Stalinets tractor for plowing only on one occasion. Plows have been taken from the farmers and an old nationalized thresher has been brought from the MTS to Kula.

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12. [redacted]

13. In 1952, the pay per workday in the TKZS was only 2.60 leva plus one kg of grain. TKZS members often make secret purchases of food from private farms. Describe the terror and plundering of the private farms by the militia, Party, DCSO members, and DSNM members, living conditions on the private farms are better /than in the TKZS/.

14. The children of non-members of the TKZS are not permitted to register in the school. This is done to persuade parents to become TKZS members. In addition, the children /already enrolled/ are separated into the

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"Septemvriyche", "Pioneers", and "Children of Traitors and kulaks". The latter usually sit on the last bench in the school and are ordered to speak before their classmates against their own parents whom the teachers accuse of treason, of being kulaks, and of being the "people's enemies".

15. Ivan Kunchov became a member of the TKZS after being promised that his son would be permitted to attend the university of Sofia, however, the promise was not kept.
16. There is not an MTS (Machine Tractor Station) in Rakovitsa, Kula Okoliya. Sometimes one or two tractors are brought to Rakovitsa from the MTS in Aleksandrovo, Belogradchik Okoliya, and from the MTS in Kula. These MTS have old nationalized tractors, old threshers, and other machinery including several soviet "Stalinets" tractors, which are often under repair.
17. The "Suglasie" Credit Consumers Cooperative which was established 25 years ago consists of four stores. TKZS products are used as security for credit, which is given only to the TKZS.

18. Personalities:

- a) Petur Tsolov, [redacted] director of the cooperative, [redacted]  
gymnasium-preparatory school education. [redacted]

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- b) Ivan Iliev, accountant for the cooperative [redacted]  
[redacted]

- d) Georgi Petkov, [redacted] cashier [redacted]  
[redacted]

- d) Tosho Yanchev, [redacted] storekeeper.

19.

20. On 1 Aug 50, the government interned [redacted] seven families:

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Families and friends of emigrants and plant workers were interned. Over 60 workers from the "9 Sep" Shoe Factory in Sofia have been interned in the Belene Camp.

21. Frontier guards of the 23rd Frontier Guard Company (23-y Pogranichen Uchastuk) with headquarters in Kula are stationed in the frontier area near Rakovitsa. Military units mainly infantry, from the Vidin Garrison and from the Vratsa division headquarters are constantly arriving in Kula to strengthen the border defenses, to train, and become acquainted with the terrain.
22. Each frontier post has several light machine guns, grenades, signal flares, carbines, Soviet submachine guns (with drum magazines), pistols, and military dogs, which are trained to detect and to attack any unknown person. Frontier defenses have been reinforced considerably since 1950. Many bunkers and trenches have been constructed in the frontier areas. Army troops and Party members who are members of the DOSO and the "Fighters against Fascism" (Boytsi protiv fashizm) organization help the frontier troops in defending the frontier areas during emergencies. There are many emergencies, especially when diversionaries and refugees cross the border illegally (either into Bulgaria or into Yugoslavia). Frontier defenses have been strengthened since 1951 but especially after 1952. Kilometers of frontier area have been cleared of obstruction, including trees, so that the frontier guards could observe and control the area. The frontier guard commanders and the okoliya committee of the Party (okoliya secretaries) divide the areas to be patrolled so that the Party members can patrol these areas every day and report to the officers of the various posts or to the secretary of the Party organization in the area. The peasants are often required to repair the roads along the border, to reinforce the bridges, to repair the trenches, to clean ditches, etc.
23. Not only the people, but also the Communists, who are a small minority, oppose the government because they cannot endure the present conditions and because they fear the Communist secret police and the State Security agents. Nobody excuses anyone and everyone informs on everybody else. Bulgaria awaits war at any moment because the Communists speak of it during meetings and conduct propaganda against US imperialism and for Bulgarian defense.

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